

# Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Published Every Thursday By The Greenbelt Cooperative Publishing Association, Inc.  
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## Council May Pick Up Architects Tab For New Fire House; Raps GCS Litter

The city council, on Tuesday evening, disposed of a rather lengthy agenda at a meeting marked by poor attendance of citizens. The meeting adjourned at a late hour, after consideration of the following:

1. A protest by Edward J. Brooks of Lakeside drive, that an excessive charge had been made for water usage during the construction and after occupancy of his home. The council did not feel that the charge was excessive and did not agree to any reduction in the charges.

2. Discussed briefly a suggestion by Isadore Parker that since the Post Office Department was seeking to lease new quarters in Greenbelt, that the council consider construction of a building to house its own city offices and lease space to the government for a post office. City manager Charles McDonald declared it would be better for a private builder to provide the quarters as this would increase the tax base.

3. Passed a resolution to engage services of an auditor to render an accounting of the city's finances.

4. Moved to direct the city manager to write a strong letter to Greenbelt Consumer Services, pointing out that they were violating the city's ordinance against littering and that appropriate disciplinary action would be taken if the violations continued. The filling station was the prime violator, it was disclosed.

5. Postponed action on the summer recreation program, until next meeting.

6. Deferred until next special meeting, further discussion of a plan to appropriate funds for an architectural study of property set aside for municipal use. This plan proposes that the site be surveyed by an architect with a view to locating a fire house, youth center and municipal building on the plot. The fee paid the architect would include completed plans for the fire house and preliminary sketches of the other buildings, showing their relation to one another. Members of the fire department presented their views and agreed in principle with the plan, but stressed the importance of haste since an excessive rental charge was eating into their building fund.

7. Passed an ordinance regulating the specifications for sidewalks, curbing and roadways in new developments within the city, to conform to the regulations set forth by Prince Georges county. Special exceptions to these regulations would have to be approved by the council.

8. Examined the question of approaching bus companies with a proposal for providing direct bus service from Greenbelt into Washington. The results of a recently conducted survey were not deemed sufficiently conclusive and favorable to warrant action by Greenbelt alone. McDonald agreed to contact officials of nearby communities to discover whether they were interested enough to hold a joint meeting to discuss a concerted effort to persuade the companies to supply such a service.

9. Passed a resolution declaring March 24-31 inclusive, as "Clean-up Week in Greenbelt." This observance of clean-up week coincides with state and county proclamations to the same effect.

10. Postponed taking action on a request by the Prince Georges County Recreation Department for permission to use swimming pool facilities in Greenbelt.

Councilman Robert Hurst indicated that the council should consider relieving the city manager of some of his excessively heavy workload. This item was placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

## County Stymied

By Rhea G. Kahn

The Prince Georges County Commissioners held a public hearing yesterday on the petition of Greenbelt Land Improvement Corporation for rezoning of the strip of land on Southway between the 10 court and the Armory from residential to C-2 commercial and took the matter under advisement until April 16, when they will issue their decision at Upper Marlboro. Greenbelt Consumer Services wishes to erect a new gasoline filling station on the site.

Called to testify by Hammond Welch, attorney for the cooperative, were GCS general manager Samuel Ashelman; professional planner Roger Willcox; Rev. Robert C. Hull of Greenbelt Community Church, who is also a member of the GCS board of directors; Greenbelt city councilman James Smith; and George M. Eshbaugh of 12-A Ridge.

Opposition speakers, all of whom appeared as individuals only and some of whom were cross-examined by Welch, were: Mrs. Helen Dondy, 6-K Ridge; Mrs. Rose Amberg, 10-D Southway; George M. Jones, 11-M Southway; Don D. McCaughy, 7-M Southway; and Abraham Chasanow, 11-T Ridge.

Arguments in the main were those brought out at the recent city-council hearings on the same question. Willcox stated that from the planning viewpoint there are too few gas stations in Greenbelt to serve its population and that the desired site has long been considered suitable for a gas station. Opposition witnesses took issue with the latter assertion, pointing out that the site had been planned for a park until last spring (1955). They also cited the effect of the proposed station on traffic safety.

Chasanow pointed out that with a 75-foot buffer zone next to the 10 court of Southway deeded to the city for a park, a gas station on that site would be illegal, since they are not permitted within 300 feet of public parks. (A deed transferring this zone to the city has already been executed by Greenbelt Consumer Services and is being held in escrow by Ralph Powers, city solicitor, according to city manager Charles T. McDonald.)

The hearing was attended by about twenty from Greenbelt, of whom more than half apparently favored the rezoning.

## Garden Club Meeting

The Greenbelt Garden Club will meet in the home economics room of the Center school, Monday, March 26 at 8:30 p.m. All Greenbelters interested in lawns, flower gardening, landscaping and regular gardening are invited to attend.

## To the Editor

### GRATIFYING

We would like to thank all the wonderful people who helped in the door-to-door drive for funds for the Mental Health Clinic for the County. The response from the community was most gratifying and every single penny collected will go to add additional service to the people of Prince Georges County.

Tom Ritchie  
Rose Amberg

### THANKS

Girl Scout Troop No. 16 would like to express its appreciation to the Greenbelt Rescue Squad for its service in giving a Junior First Aid Course to our troop. A special thanks is extended to Vernon Iseli, who is our instructor. This is one of the many services extended to Greenbelt residents.

Co-leaders: Mrs. Eloise McGlothlin, Mrs. Mildred Kern

### COMMENDATION

I would like to commend your newspaper, and the reporter in question for the fairness with which the unfavorable action of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission was reported in your March 16 issue. Presenting all sides of a question in the news columns is in the highest tradition of journalistic objectivity and essential in a community newspaper.

Roger B. Farquhar  
Membership and Publications, Greenbelt Consumer Services, Inc.

## Legion Post Denied Liquor License After Local Groups Voice Opposition

American Legion Greenbelt Post 136 lost its bid last Thursday, for a license to serve liquor to members at the Legion home. The Prince Georges county Board of License Commissioners denied the post's application after a public hearing scheduled for 10 a.m., which didn't get underway until 6:45 p.m. A crowd of at least 25 Greenbelters, who recorded themselves better than 2 to 1 against granting the license, waited through most of the day while the

board heard other license applications, but by hearing time it had dwindled to about half.

Reaction of the Legion post was expressed by Commander John L. Hoffman. "Regardless of the outcome," he said, "the post will continue to serve the interests of the community, state, and nation as much as, if not more than, before. We have no animosity whatever toward anyone in the community."

Speaking at the hearing on behalf of the license were Hoffman, 1st Vice Commander William A. Clark, Finance Officer Paul Cherry, and Joseph Hanyok of the Legion with W. Byron Sorrell of Hyattsville as attorney. Appearing in opposition was a delegation led by Rev. Eric T. Braund of Greenbelt Community Church and including city manager Charles T. McDonald, who presented the unanimous resolution of Greenbelt city council opposing the license; general

manager Paul M. Campbell of Greenbelt Veteran Housing Corporation, speaking for the co-op's board of directors; Rev. Glenn W. Samuelson of Greenbelt Baptist Chapel; Mrs. Jean Schneider for the Women's Guild of Community Church; James S. Beck for the General Council of Community Church; and Mrs. Elizabeth Love for the Greenbelt Women's Club.

Under cross-examination Hoffman admitted that the post, which already had a license to sell beer and light wines to members only, has been selling beer to non-member groups using its hall. Rev. Braund also brought out that of the 400 members of the post only 37 voted to apply for the liquor license; 27 voted against.

Post 136 retains its beer and wine club license after assuring the board that it would correct any wrong practices.

## GVHC Votes Elect Six To Board; Run-off Today For Remaining Three

Greenbelt Veteran Housing Corporation members gave an overwhelming vote of confidence to its present leadership when it reelected six board of director members for another one-year term at the annual membership meeting March 14 and 15.

Two other incumbent directors finished high in the balloting, but failed to receive a majority of the 367 votes cast. They will stand with four other top vote receivers in a run-off election today for the remaining three posts on the 9-man board.

Frank Lastner was high man in the balloting with 277 votes. Other elected incumbents were Edward Burgoon (265), Hans Jorgensen (240), Bruce Bowman (206), Al Long (198), and John Phariss (194). A vote of 184 was required for election.

The six candidates competing in the run-off election, in order of finish, are Robert Halpin (181), Percy Andros (179), Frank Kriby (165), Arthur Hatton (134), Ralph Bartholomew (118), and Helen Dondy (115). The three candidates receiving the highest number of votes in the run-off will be elected.

Other candidates were Ann Jarvis, Henley Goode, Russell Greenbaum, Frank Gonda, Margaret Mullady, and Glenn Black, who finished in that order. Elected without opposition to the audit committee were Ted Dalbow, James Keene, and Frank LaParle. Previously nominated from the floor and elected unanimously was the nominations and elections committee consisting of Ed Baron, Bernard Krug, Hal Silvers, Elaine Skolnik, and Alan Chotiner.

The number of ballots cast in last week's election exceeded the 263 cast last year, but did not reach the record number of 536 in the 1954 election. Over 1,400 GVHC members were eligible to vote.

### Lastner President?

GVHC Manager Paul Campbell announced that the organization of the new board will take place at the board's regularly scheduled meeting tomorrow night. The board elects its officials—President, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer—independent of the popular vote in the election, though in the past there has been a disposition to elect as president the top man in the balloting.

## Legion Co-Sponsors Lil' League Dinner

Sure and it was a great day for the Little League. On Saturday, March 17, 250 Little League parents attended a St. Patrick's Day Dance co-sponsored by the American Legion and the Little League. Charles Link and Chester Speziale, Little League coaches, made arrangements for the dance. Decorations from the land of Erin and music by an orchestra provided a festive setting. The dance was held for the purpose of having Little League parents meet the coaches. From 10 to 1 all "Irish eyes were smiling."

## 'Crippled Children' Fund Drive Begins

Fund-raisers for the Crippled Children's drive will knock on Greenbelt doors Saturday, March 24, from 4 to 6 p.m. The house-to-house canvass, in conjunction with the Easter seal campaign, will be conducted by members of the American Legion, Women's Club, Navy Wives, Scouts, Lions Club, and other local organizations.

## KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Wednesday, March 28

10 - 12 A.M.

Center School and North End School

Bring \$5 registration fee, birth certificate (child must be 5 before Dec. 31, 1956) and immunization and vaccination records.

Greenbelt  
ALL BOY'S CLUB NIGHT  
SATURDAY, MARCH 24  
6:15 p.m. to 11 p.m.  
6:15-7 p.m., Pee Wee Basketball game. Greenbelt Boys intramurals.  
7 p.m., Midget Basketball. Greenbelt vs. Syvernia Park.  
8 p.m., Intermediate Basketball. Greenbelt vs. Bladensburg.  
9 p.m., Junior Basketball. Greenbelt vs. Bladensburg.  
Admission - 25 cents  
Refreshments will be sold.

## Audubon Club Girls Visit Nat'l Museum

By Adonica Sieman

Three girls from our Audubon Junior Club (Center School) went to the National Museum on Saturday, March 10, to attend the Audubon Junior Club council meeting.

There was an interesting program of movies, slides, and a Wild Animal Parade. At the end of the program boys and girls saw the Nature Hobby Show. There were awards for bird houses, scrapbooks, collections and exhibits.

Our Audubon Junior Club won first prize for a class room exhibit of Paper Making. The prize was a picture of the Western Blue Grosbeak.

## New Post Office To Be Built Soon

Postmaster Edward C. Kaighn announced today that bids are now being solicited for new postal quarters to house the Greenbelt Post Office.

The new facility will include a public lobby, mailing vestibule, mailing platform, a 3,000 square foot work space, restroom and locker facilities for employees, and a driveway and/or maneuvering area with all-weather facing, covering a minimum area of 50' x 75'. When the building is completed the Post Office Department will enter into a lease with the owner for a period of ten years. No land option is held by the Post Office Department.

Closing date for bids is May 19. Several groups in the city have expressed interest in providing a building for the post office. Among them are Greenbelt Veteran Housing Corporation, Greenbelt Consumer Services, the Gilbert Realty company and the Warner-Kanter organization now developing a large tract of Greenbelt land. Also, the Schrom interests, owners of property on the south side of the Baltimore Parkway, are said to be interested.

Of the available sites in Greenbelt, those mentioned are: a small parcel land between the bank and the Center school, a tract between the filling station and apartments on Crescent road, a new commercial area across from the junior high school, and city-owned property behind the plaza statue.

Further information regarding requirements and forms for making proposals may be procured from Postal Inspector A. E. Helmick, Post Office Box 1820, Washington 13, D. C.

## Wolfe-Stepahen

Mr. and Mrs. James H. Wolfe, 3-D Gardenway, announce the marriage of their daughter Esther on February 28 at the Greenbelt Community Church to George Stepahen of Butler, Pennsylvania. The newly married couple are making their home in Naylor Gardens, Washington.

## RIVERDALE DRIVING SCHOOL

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## GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW

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Published by the Greenbelt Cooperative Publishing Association, Inc.

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Vol. 20

Thursday, March 22, 1956

No. 33

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**KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION** Wednesday, March 28, 10-12 a.m. Center school and North End school. Bring \$5 registration fee, birth certificate (child must be 5 before Dec. 31, 1956) and immunization and vaccination record.

**GREENBELT COOPERATIVE NURSERY SCHOOL** now accepting applications for fall term. Three and four year olds. Call Skolnik - GR 4-7586.

## JCC Elects Officers For Coming Year

Last Saturday night, members of the Prince George's Jewish Community Center elected the following officers for the year 1956-1957: Nathan Shinderman, President; Nathan Schein, Vice-President in charge of Program; Morris Steinman, Vice-President in charge of Administration; Ida Ryss, Recording Secretary; Florence Shinderman, Corresponding Secretary; Larry Levine, Treasurer; Harold Tenenbaum, Financial Secretary. Elected to the Board of Trustees were Robert Garin, Raymond Haber, Burt Halperin, Jack Sanders, Bernard Sisco.

## Sodality Dance

The St. Hugh's Teen-Age Sodality will hold its annual Easter dance April 1, from 8 to 11 p.m. in the school hall. Dress will be informal.

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## Junior Drill Team Is Formed By Legion

Greenbelt American Legion Post No. 136 is now forming a junior drill team. The primary purpose of the team is participation in parades and special local affairs.

An open invitation is extended to any boy between 12 and 15 years of age to join. No drill knowledge is required. All boys will be trained when they join.

Call Ted Pugh, GR 4-7618, or contact Austin Green at the police department, for information.

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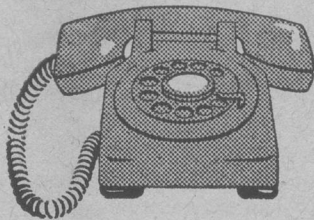
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